

1 THE HONORABLE JOHN C. COUGHENOUR
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7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
8 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
9 AT SEATTLE

10 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

11 Plaintiff,

v.

12 ROZZY MARIE MCGEE,

13 Defendant.

CASE NO. CR20-0137-JCC

ORDER

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15 This matter comes before the Court on the parties' stipulated motion for authorization to
16 conduct Ms. McGee's plea hearing by videoconference. (Dkt. No. 264).

17 Under General Order 04-20, felony pleas and sentencing may proceed by video or
18 telephone conferencing if "the district judge in a particular case finds for specific reasons that the
19 plea or sentencing in that case cannot be further delayed without serious harm to the interests of
20 justice." W.D. Wash. General Order 04-20 (March 30, 2020); *see also* W.D. Wash. General
21 Orders 14-21 (Dec. 22, 2021) (extending duration of General Order 04-20).

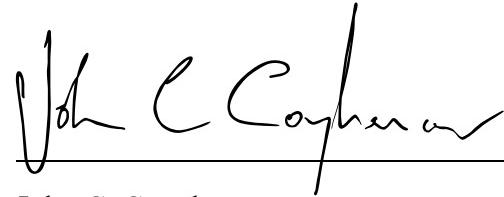
22 Having thoroughly considered the motion and the relevant record, the Court FINDS that
23 further delay in the absence of a video plea hearing would seriously harm the interests of justice.
24 The following specific reasons support this finding: (1) Ms. McGee has been accepted into the
25 Drug Reentry Alternative Model (DREAM) program, the terms of which require prompt
26 resolution of her plea proceedings, (*see* Dkt. No. 264 at 2); (2) Ms. McGee consents to attend the

1 plea hearing via videoconference, (*id.*); and (3) the proposed remote plea hearing will reduce the
2 risk of viral transmission and the misallocation of scarce justice system resources. *See* W.D.
3 Wash. General Order 01-22 (Jan. 7, 2022) (imposing limitations for certain in-person activities
4 based on the recent uptick in COVID-19 cases).

5 It is therefore ORDERED that parties' motion (Dkt. No. 264) is GRANTED. The parties
6 will contact the courtroom deputy for the criminal duty Magistrate Judge to schedule the plea
7 hearing. The Magistrate Judge is DIRECTED to make a record of Ms. McGee's consent to a
8 remote proceeding.

9 DATED this 14th day of January 2022.

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John C. Coughenour
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE